

# DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES, SOUTH-SOUTH SOLUTIONS

E-newsletter of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation in UNDP



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## 1) Time-Tested Iranian Solutions to Cool and Refrigerate

Keeping food cool is critical for human health. No matter what the climate, a cool environment will prolong food preservation, stave off spoilage and lower the risk of food poisoning. This is crucial for the poor because it means they can reduce food waste and avoid illnesses caused by food poisoning. Diarrhea is a common problem when people do not have access to refrigeration for their food.

Food security is also enhanced, as more can be stored and less thrown away as waste. Keeping food cool also means less need for preservation techniques, such as using salt, spices or smoke. Salt and smoke both can have adverse effects on human health. Salt increases sodium in the diet, which leads to high blood pressure, and smoke is a carcinogen which can lead to various forms of cancer.

It is healthier to keep food in its natural state - and keep it cool.

While the invention of the electric refrigerator was a major breakthrough, it requires a steady supply of electricity, which is expensive and difficult for many people.

Various pre-electric refrigeration technologies have been developed over the centuries. Among them was a pioneering technology used in Persia (modern-day Iran) as far back as the 11th century (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avicenna>). And now, it is being looked to once again today as sustainable refrigeration solution that does not damage the environment.

Iran's solution involves creating a domed ice house made from earth bricks. Many ancient ice houses have been discovered on the edge of deserts, where ice was scarce and supplies remote. The solution was to create a dugout channel at the rear of a domed house and then flood the channel with water. When the temperature dropped at night in the desert, the water would freeze into ice.

Rising early in the morning, the resident would break up the ice into blocks and store them inside the ice house. This was repeated night after night until there was enough ice in the house that it could last the summer months.

The water was drawn from elaborate irrigation systems used for farming.

The ice houses were cone and dome-shaped and included some with underground structures. To date, a project headed by Dr. Hemming Jorgensen has documented 129 centuries-old ice houses at the fringe areas of large deserts in Iran. Jorgensen, from the University of Copenhagen in Denmark, has documented the use of these structures on his "Ice Houses of Iran" website (<http://www.hemmingjorgensen.com/>).

In 18th and 19th century England, ice houses were also common place in country estates to keep food cool in kitchens. Today, there are growing numbers of people around the world who are turning to technologies such as ice houses to find sustainable, non-electric, low-carbon alternatives to electric refrigeration.

Another environmentally friendly cooling solution from Iran involves using wind catchers to circulate air during the hotter months. Called bagdir wind

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towers, or Windcatchers (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Windcatcher>), they have been used in Yazd, Iran since the 19th century.

Profiled in Green Building Magazine

([http://www.greenbuildingpress.co.uk/product\\_details.php?category\\_id=10&item\\_id=235](http://www.greenbuildingpress.co.uk/product_details.php?category_id=10&item_id=235)), the wind towers are made of stone, and channel wind down into a shaft to cool or heat the rooms below. It is an air circulation solution that does not take any energy - because it uses the wind - and is carbon neutral. In summer, the wind is drawn down into a stone chimney by low air pressure zones in the ventilation system. It is cooled, and then is circulated through the dwelling, rising as it warms up through the house. This is combined with a strategy of moving rooms depending on how hot or cool they are, adjusting clothing based on the temperature, or even placing water on the floor to cool the air.

In Nigeria in West Africa, a cooler called the zeer (<http://practicalaction.org/zeer-pots>) has been developed. It works like this: two ceramic earthenware pots of different sizes are arranged one inside the other. The space between the pots is filled with wet sand and kept moist. The user then places drinks or vegetables inside and covers it with a damp cloth. As the water from the moist sand evaporates (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evaporation>), the air inside the centre pot is cooled several degrees, enough to preserve some foods and drinks.

#### **LINKS:**

- 1) ChotuKool fridge: The ChotuKool fridge is designed to stay cool for hours without electricity and to use half the power of conventional refrigerators. Priced at US \$69, it is targeted at India's poor. **Website:** (<http://www.new.godrej.com/godrej/godrej/index.aspx?id=1>)
- 2) Ice house designs from the 18th and 19th century in the United Kingdom. **Website:** <http://www.icehouses.co.uk/petworth.htm>
- 3) The High Desert Chronicles: "Sometimes you need to look back to move forward!". Details use of contemporary ice houses in the desert for refrigeration. **Website:** <http://www.highdesertchronicles.com/2012/10/ice-in-the-high-desert-without-electricity-or-refrigeration/>
- 4) History Magazine: The Impact of Refrigeration: The role played by refrigeration throughout human history. **Website:** <http://www.history-magazine.com/refrig.html>
- 5) Methods of Alternative Refrigeration: Three solutions in detail. **Website:** <http://www.provident-living-today.com/Alternative-Refrigeration.html>

## **2) A New Beer Helping to Protect Elephants**

How to match the often conflicting goals of protecting animal habitats and supporting local economies? One clever solution may draw amusement but is actually a sharp marketing strategy to get attention for a product that is helping to preserve the elephants of Thailand's Golden Triangle ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golden\\_Triangle\\_\(Southeast\\_Asia\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golden_Triangle_(Southeast_Asia))).

A beer flavored with a special ingredient - coffee beans that have passed through elephants - is generating profits that are plowed back into improving health services for the animals. The coffee beans excreted by elephants are roasted and turned into a high-quality coffee by a company in Thailand; this coffee is then used by a Japanese company to make a special beer brand that is getting attention and winning rave reviews.

The elephant dung coffee beans used in the beer are called Black Ivory (<http://www.blackivorycoffee.com>) and come from Thailand's Golden Triangle Asian Elephant Foundation (<http://www.helpingelephants.org>). According to The Drinks Business, the coffee beans retail for US \$100 per 35 grams.

The beans are of the Thai Arabica variety and grow at an elevation of 1,500 metres. Elephants consume the coffee cherries and excrete the beans as part of their diet. Once the elephants have excreted the beans in their faeces they are harvested, processed, sun dried and roasted.

It takes 10,000 beans to make a kilogram of roasted coffee, according to the Black Ivory website. A total of 33 kilograms of coffee cherries are consumed by the elephants to make a kilogram of the Black Ivory coffee.

Elephants in Thailand are used for various activities, from heavy work to providing rides for tourists. The riders of the elephants - called mahouts (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mahout>) - and their wives also benefit from the manufacturing and sale of the coffee. The income is used to pay for health costs, school fees, food and clothing.

Additionally, 8 per cent of the proceeds from the sale of the coffee beans pays for a veterinarian to provide care to the elephants. The money is also used to pay for their medicine and the setting up of a laboratory.

Elephants are much-revered in Thailand and feature in the country's national iconography. They are listed as Protected Animals under Thailand's Conservation Act 1992 (FAO). Many believe they should be classified as endangered. The last survey on the population was conducted in 1991 and elephant numbers were recorded as 1,900 (FAO).

The main threat to elephants comes from humans - in the form of poaching for the animals' ivory tusks, their abuse in begging on the streets, and the destruction of forests where the elephants live.

The natural habitat and feeding grounds for the elephants have shrunk over the past decades. It is estimated the forest area in Thailand shrank from 80 per cent to 20 per cent between 1957 and 1992. Causes include major infrastructure projects, increasing farmland and the building of large resorts, all encroaching on the elephants' territory. Limited space means elephants increasingly come into conflict with humans and this can lead to them being poisoned or killed.

But the success of the Japanese-brewed Kono Kuro beer is creating a new funding source for helping the elephants and doing some good.

The beer is brewed by Sankt Gallen brewery (<http://www.sanktgallenbrewery.com>) in Kanagawa, Japan using the Black Ivory coffee beans, imparting the beer with an earthy flavour. It may sound like a gimmick, but consumers have remarked on the beer's distinctive taste, and sales do not lie: it has been a quick success, selling out within minutes of its launch in Japan.

The beer comes in dark bottles with a sandy coloured label elegantly illustrated with pictograms showing the process of turning the beans excreted by the elephants into beer. It is a humorous visual tale that makes the label stand out from other beer brands.

Brewer Sankt Gallen calls it a "chocolate stout" because of its rich, earthy flavour (it does not contain any chocolate, however).

Although bottles of the stout sold out after going on sale on the Sankt Gallen website, the brewery has said that it has plans to put the beer on tap at its new shop, which opened in Tokyo recently.

#### **LINKS:**

- 1) Coffee Alamid: Ethically produces the coffee harvested from the droppings of civet cats in the Philippines. **Website:** <http://www.botecentral.net/>
- 2) Save the Elephants: A campaign to stop the poaching of elephant ivory. **Website:** <http://www.savetheelephants.org>
- 3) BBC Nature: Background on elephants. **Website:** [http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/life/African\\_elephant](http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/life/African_elephant)
- 4) WWF: Facts and background on elephants. **Website:** <http://worldwildlife.org/species/elephant>

### **3) Solar Solution to Lack of Electricity in Africa**

Electricity is critical to improving human development and living standards. Yet, for many in the global South, electricity is either non-existent or its provision is patchy, erratic, unreliable or expensive.

Just as Africa has been able to jump a generation ahead when it comes to communications through the mass adoption of mobile phones - a much cheaper option than trying to provide telephone wires and cables across the continent - so it could also bypass the burdensome costs of providing electricity mains to everyone by turning to smaller electricity generation technologies such as solar power. This is called "off-grid" electricity.

The UN has set the goal of universal access to modern energy services by 2030. A report issued in April 2010 by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's Advisory Group on Energy and Climate Change (AGECC) calls for expanding energy access to more than 2 billion people ([http://www.unido.org/fileadmin/user\\_media/Publications/download/AGECCsummaryreport.pdf](http://www.unido.org/fileadmin/user_media/Publications/download/AGECCsummaryreport.pdf)).

The report found that a lack of access to modern energy services represents a significant barrier to development. Some 1.6 billion people still lack access to electricity.

A reliable, affordable energy supply, the report says, is the key to economic growth and the achievement of the anti-poverty targets contained in the Millennium Development Goals.

When a person has electricity and the lighting it powers, it is possible to do business and study late into the night. Electric lighting also makes streets and living areas safer. Electricity can power a plethora of labour-saving and life-enhancing consumer goods: televisions, refrigerators, vacuum cleaners, air conditioners and fans, washing machines, clothes dryers, computers. And electricity recharges that most essential item, the mobile phone, on which millions rely to do their daily business.

After witnessing the struggle African health clinics have to access electricity, a Nairobi, Kenya-based company has developed a simple solution to ensure a steady supply of solar electricity. One Degree Solar's (<http://onedegreesolar.com/>) founder, Gaurav Manchanda, developed and sells the BrightBox solar-charging system for lights, mobile phones, tablet computers and radios.

He first gained experience working in the West African nation of Liberia with the Clinton Health Access Initiative (<http://www.clintonfoundation.org/main/our-work/by-initiative/clinton-health-access-initiative/about.html>). Working at the country's Ministry of Health, he found most health clinics operated without electricity.

He identified solar power as the only viable energy source. Trying to deliver fuel to power generators by the road network had two impediments: the diesel fuel was expensive and the road conditions were poor.

After seeing that large solar-power systems required significant maintenance and upkeep, he started to explore the possibility of low-cost, and simple-to-use solar electricity products that would be useful to community healthcare workers.

This became the beginning of One Degree Solar and its mission.

The company's main product is the BrightBox, a cleverly designed solar charger. A bright orange box with a folding, aluminium handle at the top for easy carrying, it switches on and off simply with a bright red button. It has a waterproof solar panel. The BrightBox has USB (universal service bus) ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Universal\\_Serial\\_Bus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Universal_Serial_Bus)) ports so that mobile phones and radios can be plugged in. It is also possible to plug in four lights at once with the four outlets on the side of the box.

It meets the standards set by the Lighting Africa initiative (<http://lightingafrica.org/specs/one-degree-brightbox-2-.html>) of the International Finance Corporation and the World Bank.

One Degree Solar claim it is possible to set up a BrightBox in 10 minutes. When the indicator light has turned green, the box is fully charged and capable of providing 40 hours of light.

A full charge can power two light bulbs for 20 hours. Manchanda told How We Made It In Africa (<http://www.howwemadeitinafrica.com/>) that he has sold 4,000 units of the BrightBox since its launch in October 2012.

According to The Nation, the BrightBox is currently retailing in Kenya for Kenyan shillings 7,000 (US \$82).

One Degree Solar's product range is sold to local resellers and distributors. The products are designed to be repaired using locally sourced parts and can be fixed by local electricians.

Most of the sales so far have been in Kenya but the firm has also sold units to other countries.

Testimonials on the BrightBox website tell of the transformation to people's lives the clean energy source makes: "BrightBox has helped us in so many ways! We used to spend 800 Shillings (US \$9.50) a month for two paraffin lanterns. The fumes smelled and always made us feel sick."

Manchanda is a strong believer in Africa's potential and its future and dismisses those who are negative about the continent.

"That was not a holistic assessment, but rather, an unnecessary and damaging generalization," he told How We Made It In Africa. "Fortunately, most news outlets in Africa are now available online and offer a wider range of perspectives. The middle class is booming in certain countries. We have seen the success of mobile phones in enabling people to access other services. I think hope and progress come with innovation. Technology access has helped create entirely new markets and reach populations that otherwise could have taken decades to service with traditional approaches.

"India was in a similar space 15 years ago before the Internet boom, and today parts of Nairobi (Kenya) are just like Delhi (India): people have a cell phone or two, there are large shopping malls, a booming middle class, and new construction everywhere."

#### **LINKS:**

- 1) Global Off-Grid Lighting Association: Global Off-Grid Lighting Association (GOGLA) has been established to act as the industry advocate with a focus on small and medium enterprises. It is a neutral,

independent, not-for-profit association created to promote lighting solutions that benefit society and businesses in developing and emerging markets. GOGLA will support industry in the market penetration of clean, quality alternative lighting systems. **Website:** <http://globaloff-gridlightingassociation.org/>

- 2) Solar Sister: Solar Sister eradicates energy poverty by empowering women with economic opportunity. **Website:** <http://www.solarsister.org/>
- 3) Sunbird Solar/Thousand Suns manufactures, sources and distributes the portable solar generator range. **Website:** <http://www.thousandsuns.com/>
- 4) Little Sun: An attractive, high-quality solar-powered lamp in the shape of a hand-sized sun developed by artist Olafur Eliasson and engineer Frederik Ottesen. **Website:** <http://www.littlesun.com/>

#### 4) African Innovators Celebrated in Prize

Innovation is increasingly being recognized as the key to tackling long-standing development problems in Africa, as well as across the developing and developed world. While it is easy to draw up a list of challenges facing the global South, it takes a special person to see not problems but solutions.

Innovation tends to mean fresh thinking brought to bear to old problems, or completely radical new technologies, insights and ways of doing things that are transformative.

The Oslo Manual for measuring innovation

(<http://www.oecd.org/innovation/inno/oslomanualguidelinesforcollectingandinterpretinginnovationdata3rdedition.htm>) has defined four types of innovation: product innovation, process innovation, marketing innovation and organizational innovation (OECD).

Product innovation is a good or service that is new or significantly improved. This includes significant improvements in technical specifications, components and materials, software in the product, user friendliness or other functional characteristics. Process innovation is a new or significantly improved production or delivery method. This includes significant changes in techniques, equipment and/or software. Marketing innovation is defined as a new marketing method involving significant changes in product design or packaging, product placement, product promotion or pricing. And finally, organizational innovation is a new organizational method in business practices, workplace organization or external relations.

How quickly these can be brought to the marketplace, and the level of innovation in society, will be critical to a country's success in the coming decade, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). Importantly, innovation is being seen as the big driver of economic progress and well-being and the best way to deal with the plethora of challenges facing human health and the environment.

As an example, in the past decade, communications innovation has given more and more of the world's population access to mobile phones and the Internet. This has led to the success of many new companies, from the search engine giant Google to multiple software innovations such as Kenya's M-Pesa mobile phone banking application (<http://www.safaricom.co.ke/personal/m-pesa/m-pesa-services-tariffs/relax-you-have-got-m-pesa>), to small and innovative companies spreading the innovation bug such as Pico Crickets (<http://www.picocricket.com/>) or the Raspberry Pi (<http://www.raspberrypi.org/>).

As the OECD has said, "Not only has innovation moved to centre stage in economic policymaking, but there is a realization that a coordinated, coherent, 'whole of government' approach is required".

"Even countries that have generally refrained from active industrial policy in recent years now seek new ways to improve the environment for innovation in order to boost productivity and growth. Today, innovation performance is a crucial determinant of competitiveness and national progress."

In the past, African innovators mostly went unacknowledged, unsupported and unrecognized. But this is changing, as new resources come online to support, finance, encourage and champion African innovators. Until very recently, people outside the continent heard little positive news about what was happening there. But the African innovator story is an inspiration to people around the world.

The Innovation Prize for Africa (<http://innovationprizeforafrica.org>), begun in 2011, awards US \$100,000 for the top innovation that matches its criteria of marketability, originality, scalability, social impact and business potential.

The prize aims to encourage people to come up with practical solutions to the continent's long-standing problems. This year's prize received 900 applications from 45 countries.

The 2013 prize went to the South Africa-based AgriProtein (<http://www.agriprotein.com>) team for an innovation that uses waste and fly larvae to produce animal feed. The solution collects biodegradable waste and then feeds it to flies. The larvae the flies produce are then ground into a protein which is used as a feed for animals. Not only does this approach improve the nutritional quality of the feed, it also lowers the cost for African processors and farmers.

This year's finalists offer a mixed bag of innovations, including creative ways to find new energy sources, improving access to clean water and preventing diseases.

Joining a clutch of other South African finalists, Dr. Dudley Jackson has created the SavvyLoo, a waterless toilet for use in rural areas and makeshift settlements. It separates the waste into liquids and solids to reduce the risk of disease, odour, and harm to the environment and eases waste removal.

Another South African, Professor Eugene Cloete, is the inventor of the TBag Water Filter that cleverly uses material recovered from tea bags to filter polluted water until it is completely safe to drink.

When it comes to the thorny issue of finding new energy sources for an energy-hungry continent, the prize unearthed some interesting solutions. One is Justus Nwaoga, a Nigerian finalist, who developed a way to turn a common weed into a source of renewable solar energy.

Nwaoga, a researcher from the Department of Pharmaceutical and Medicinal Chemistry at the University of Nigeria Nsukka (<http://unn.edu.ng/>), found the common tropical weed *Mimosa pudica* ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mimosa\\_pudica](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mimosa_pudica)) surprisingly provides a way to tap into the sun's energy.

The weed has leaves which fold in on themselves when touched, but spring quickly back into their normal form when exposed to daylight. The plant opens up in the morning and closes in the evening - an indicator of how sensitive it is to sunlight.

Nwaoga began to experiment with the plant, subjecting it to artificial light at night to see if the leaves would open up again. But they didn't. He came to the conclusion there were properties in the leaves that only responded to natural, solar light. He further concluded it had something to do with electrical transmission in the leaves. He isolated the element that was making the leaves respond to solar light, finding it more sensitive than the silicon solar cell used in solar panels.

Other innovators recognized by the prize include a Tunisian research and development startup called Saphon Energy (<http://www.saphonenergy.com/>), which makes bladeless wind turbines, and Muna Majoud Mahomed Ahmed from Sudan, who has created the Agroforestry Model Farm in Khartoum.

"We see a strong trend emerging of innovations that have significant social impact for Africa," Dr. Francois Bonnici, director of the Bertha Centre for Social Innovation at the University of Cape Town's Graduate School of Business, told Ventures Africa.

The call for applications for the 2014 Prize will be announced in July 2013

#### **LINKS:**

- 1) Innovation Prize for Africa: Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA) is a joint initiative of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the African Innovation Foundation (AIF) started in 2011. **Website:** <http://innovationprizeforafrica.org>
- 2) Appfrica: Accelerating the Growth of Africa's Tech Sector: Appfrica has launched "The Cheetah Code", an ongoing web series documenting the African tech and creative space. The series is a collection of mini-documentaries chronicling Africa's young entrepreneurs, creative class, and emerging technology sector. The goal is to record high-quality video content that is entertaining, educational, and inspirational all at once. You can find all of this content and more at [tv.cheetahcode.com](http://tv.cheetahcode.com). **Website:** [http://blog.appfrica.com/2013/05/12/a-web-series-about-africas-entrepreneurs-creatives-and-technologists?utm\\_medium=twitter&utm\\_source=twitterfeed](http://blog.appfrica.com/2013/05/12/a-web-series-about-africas-entrepreneurs-creatives-and-technologists?utm_medium=twitter&utm_source=twitterfeed)
- 3) Innovation and Growth: Rationale for an Innovation Strategy: Publisher: OECD. **Website:** <http://www.oecd.org/science/inno/39374789.pdf>
- 4) Reverse Innovation: Ideas from the Global South. **Website:** <http://urbantimes.co/2012/09/reverse-innovation-ideas-from-the-global-south/>
- 5) African Innovator Magazine: Technology insights for Africa's decision makers. **Website:** <http://www.africaninnovatormagazine.com/>

## **WINDOW ON THE WORLD**

Check out our website archive: [southerninnovator.org](http://southerninnovator.org)

Southern Innovator (ISSN 2222-9280) magazine's third issue is now online and print copies are available for distribution. The third issue's theme is agribusiness and food security. View the issue online here: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/106055665/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-3-Agribusiness-and-Food-Security>. Contact us about opportunities to sponsor this issue or any future issues and we can send you more information on how it works.



Issue 4, on cities and urbanization, is complete and will be published soon. Please contact the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation if you would like a copy (copies) of Southern Innovator (<http://ssc.undp.org/content/ssc.html>).

**The covers for issues 2, 3 and 4 are below:**



Issue 2 on Youth and Entrepreneurship; Issue 3 on agribusiness and food security, is available. Issues 4 and 5 are also in the works for 2013.

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Issue 1 of Southern Innovator was called "...a terrific tour de force of what is interesting, cutting edge and relevant in the global mobile/ICT space..."

Also check out our South South Expo: 2012's Expo was held in Vienna, Austria: [southsouthexpo.org](http://southsouthexpo.org)

## **BOOKS**

**NEW: Human Development Report 2013: The Rise of the South.** The 2013 Human Development Report examines the profound shift in global dynamics driven by the fast-rising new powers of the developing world and its long-term implications for human development. **Website:** <http://hdr.undp.org/en/mediacentre/humandevdevelopmentreportpresskits/2013report/>

*Human Development Reports*, (1990-2013). **Website:** <http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2011/>

*The New Harvest: Agricultural Innovation in Africa* by Calestous Juma, Publisher: Oxford University Press. **Website:** [http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/20504/new\\_harvest.html](http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/20504/new_harvest.html)

**NEW:** *Edible Insects: Future prospects for food and feed security*, Publisher: FAO. **Website:** <http://www.fao.org/docrep/018/i3253e/i3253e00.htm>

*Innovative Africa: The New Face of Africa: Essays on the Rise of Africa's Innovation Age* by Will Mutua and Mbwana Ally, Publisher: Afrinnovator. **Website:** <http://book.afrinnovator.com/>

*The Coming Prosperity* by Philip Auerwald, Publisher: Oxford University Press. **Website:** <http://auerswald.org/>

*Big Data: A Revolution That Will Transform How We Live, Work and Think* by Viktor Mayer-Schonberger and Kenneth Cukier, Publisher: John Murray. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*The New Digital Age: Reshaping the Future of People, Nations and Business* by Eric Schmidt and Jared Cohen, Publisher: John Murray. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*Interconnected Economies: Benefiting from Global Value Chains*, Publisher: OECD. **Website:** <http://www.oecd.org/sti/ind/global-value-chains.htm>

*Need, Speed and Greed: How the New Rules of Innovation Can Transform Businesses, Propel Nations to Greatness, and Tame the World's Most Wicked Problems* by Vijay Vaitheeswaran, Publisher: HarperBusiness. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*Living in the Endless City* edited by Ricky Burdett and Deyan Sudjic, Publisher: Phaidon. The city is the subject of the 21st century. All over the world, populations are shifting towards urban centres. *Living in the Endless City* depicts an authoritative survey of cities of today and the prospects for our urban future of tomorrow. 36 contributors from across Europe, South America, China, Africa and the U.S. set the agenda for the city - detailing its successes as well as its failures. **Website:** <http://www.urban-age.net/publications/living-in-the-endless-city/>

*Consumptionomics: Asia's Role in Reshaping Capitalism* by Chandran Nair, Publisher: Infinite Ideas. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*World 3.0: Global Prosperity and How to Achieve It* by Pankaj Ghemawa, Publisher: Harvard Business School Press. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*The End of Cheap China: Economic and Cultural Trends that will Disrupt the World* by Shaun Rein, Publisher: John Wiley and Sons. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*Global Slump: The Economics and Politics of Crisis and Resistance* by David McNally, Publisher: PM Press. Global Slump analyzes the global financial meltdown as the first systemic crisis of the neoliberal stage of capitalism. It argues that – far from having ended – the crisis has ushered in a whole period of worldwide economic and political turbulence. In developing an account of the crisis as rooted in fundamental features of capitalism, Global Slump challenges the view that its source lies in financial deregulation. **Website:** [https://secure.pmpress.org/index.php?l=product\\_detail&p=271](https://secure.pmpress.org/index.php?l=product_detail&p=271)

*Breakout Nations* by Ruchir Sharma, Publisher: Penguin. Breakout Nations offers journeys through more than two dozen of the most interesting economies in the emerging world. **Website:** <http://breakoutnations.com/>

*Light Manufacturing in Africa* by Hinh T. Dinh et al, Publisher: World Bank. This book examines how light manufacturing can offer a viable solution for sub-Saharan Africa's need for structural transformation and productive job creation, given its potential competitiveness based on low wage costs and an abundance of natural resources that supply raw materials needed for industries. **Website:** <http://issuu.com/world.bank.publications/docs/9780821389614>

*Arrival City* by Doug Saunders, Publisher: Pantheon. A third of humanity is on the move. History's largest migration is creating new urban spaces that are this century's focal points of conflict and change — centres of febrile settlement that will reshape our cities and reconfigure our economies. **Website:** <http://arrivalcity.net/>

*China: And the End of Poverty in Africa – Towards Mutual Benefit?* by Penny Davis, Publisher: Diakonia and the European Network on Debt and Development. **Website:** [www.eurodad.org/uploadedFiles/Whats\\_New/Reports/Kinarapport\\_A4.pdf](http://www.eurodad.org/uploadedFiles/Whats_New/Reports/Kinarapport_A4.pdf)

*State of the Field in Youth Enterprise, Employment, and Livelihoods Development* Publisher: Making Cents International. This practical resource features learning from over 80 leading organizations that are working around the world to increase and improve economic opportunities for young people. Topics include youth enterprise development; workforce development; youth-inclusive financial services; working with adolescent girls and young women; and monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment. **Website:** [www.YouthEconomicOpportunities.org/media.asp](http://www.YouthEconomicOpportunities.org/media.asp)

*Vitamin Green: The Definitive Guide to the World of Contemporary Sustainable Design: Features 100 Innovative Projects from Around the World* by editors of Phaidon Press, Publisher: Phaidon Press. **Website:** <http://uk.phaidon.com/store/architecture/vitamin-green-9780714862293/>

*Makers: The New Industrial Revolution* by Chris Anderson, Publisher: Crown Business. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*World Economic Outlook, October 2012: Coping with High Debt and Sluggish Growth*, Publisher: IMF. **Website:** [eurospangroup.com](http://eurospangroup.com)

*Information Economy Report 2012: The Software Industry and Developing Countries*, Publisher: United Nations Publications. **Website:** [eurospangroup.com](http://eurospangroup.com)

*China and India: Towards Global Economic Supremacy?* by Rita Dulci and Jose Miguel Andreu, Publisher: Academic Foundation. **Website:** [eurospanbookstore.com](http://eurospanbookstore.com)

*Devaluing to Prosperity: Misaligned Currencies and Their Growth Consequences* by Surjit S. Bhalla, Publisher: Peterson Institute for International Economics. **Website:** [eurospanbookstore.com](http://eurospanbookstore.com)

*China's Silent Army* by Juan Pablo Cardenal and Heriberto Araujo, Publisher: Allen Lane. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*Chinnovation: How Chinese Innovators are Changing the World* by Yinglan Tan, Publisher: John Wiley & Sons. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*China's Uncertain Future* by Jean-Luc Domenach, Publisher: Columbia University Press. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*Hello World: Where Design Meets Life* by Alice Rawsthorn, Publisher: Hamish Hamilton. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*Urgent Architecture: 40 Sustainable Housing Solutions for a Changing World* by Bridgette Meinhold, Publisher: W.W. Norton & Co. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)



*When the Money Runs Out: The End of Western Affluence* by Stephen D. King, Publisher: Yale Books. **Website:** [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

## **Papers and Reports**

*Clean Air Asia Study 2012.* **Website:** <http://cleanairinitiative.org/portal/node/11338>

*African Economic Outlook 2012: Promoting Youth Employment* Publisher: Various. With almost 200 million people aged between 15 and 24, Africa has the youngest population in the world. This number will double by 2045. Many jobs have been created over the last decade, but the pace needs to accelerate significantly to match the demand of Africa's next generations. **Website:** <http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.org/en/>

*State of China's Cities: 2010/2011: Better City, Better Life* Publisher: UNHABITAT.

**Website:** [www.scribd.com/doc/39882697/State-of-China-s-Cities-Report-2010-2011](http://www.scribd.com/doc/39882697/State-of-China-s-Cities-Report-2010-2011)

*Still our Common Interest: Commission for Africa Report 2010* Publisher: Commission for Africa

**Website:** [www.commissionforafrica.info/2010-report](http://www.commissionforafrica.info/2010-report)

*The Implications of China's Ascendancy for Africa* by Hany Besada, Publisher: The Centre for International Governance Innovation. This paper examines the extent to which China's engagement with Africa has produced mutual benefits for both and whether Africa is reaping the necessary benefits required for poverty alleviation and economic development. **Website:** [http://www.cigionline.com/sites/default/files/Paper\\_40-web.pdf](http://www.cigionline.com/sites/default/files/Paper_40-web.pdf)

*Global Economic Decoupling Alive and Well* Emerging economies decouple from the US, come closer to Europe.

**Website:** <http://www.marketoracle.co.uk/Article23670.html>

*Africa begins to make poverty history: US economists challenge conventional view that the continent is a basket case.* **Website:** [www.guardian.co.uk/business/2010/mar/03/africa-makes-poverty-history](http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2010/mar/03/africa-makes-poverty-history)

*The Demise of the Rest: on How the BRICS Are Crumbling and Why Global Economic Convergence Is a Myth* by Ruchir Sharma, Publisher: Foreign Affairs. **Website:** <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/138219/ruchir-sharma/broken-brics>

*Meteoric Mongolia: Why It's Ascending So Fast – And How It Might Fall* by Morris Rossabi, Publisher: Foreign Affairs. **Website:** <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/138794/morris-rossabi/meteoric-mongolia>

**Call for papers:** Call for Papers for Special Issue titled "Global Crisis and Agrarian Transformation: What Future for Re-peasantization?, Agrarian South: Journal of Political Economy". Agrarian South: Journal of Political Economy invites articles for its Special Issue to be published in December 2013, on "Global Crisis and Agrarian Transformation: What Future for Re-peasantization?" The deadline for receipt of manuscripts is 10 June 2013. Email: [agrariansouth@gmail.com](mailto:agrariansouth@gmail.com)

## **Magazines**

**Southern Innovator Issue 1: Mobile Phones and Information Technology** Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation. **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/doc/95410448/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-1-Mobile-Phones-and-Information-Technology>

**Southern Innovator Issue 2: Youth and Entrepreneurship** Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation. **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/doc/106055335/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-2-Youth-and-Entrepreneurship>

**Southern Innovator Issue 3: Agribusiness and Food Security** Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation. **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/doc/106055665/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-3-Agribusiness-and-Food-Security>

**Southern Innovator Issue 4: Cities and Urbanization** Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation. **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/doc/133622315/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-4-Cities-and-Urbanization>

## **New Magazine**

**African Innovator Magazine has launched:** AIM showcases innovative technology solutions to business challenges on the continent. **Website:** <http://www.africaninnovatormagazine.com/>

## **On the Web**

## **Blogs and Websites**

**Raspberry Pi:** The Raspberry Pi is a credit-card sized computer that plugs into your TV and a keyboard. It's a capable little PC which can be used for many of the things that your desktop PC does, like spreadsheets, word-processing and games. It also plays high-definition video. Raspberry Pi want to see it being used by kids all over the world to learn programming. **Website:** [raspberrypi.org](http://raspberrypi.org)

**African Robotics Network:** The African Robotics Network (AFRON) is a community of institutions, organizations and individuals engaged in robotics in Africa. AFRON seeks to promote communication and collaborations that will enhance robotics-related education, research and industry on the continent. To achieve this, AFRON organizes projects, meetings and events in Africa at robotics and automation conferences abroad. **Website:** <http://robotics-africa.org/>

**Polis:** A collaborative blog about cities around the globe. **Website:** <http://www.thepolisblog.org/2012/03/coca-cola-in-africa.html>

**mDirectory:** The mDirectory is the most comprehensive database of information on mobile tech for social change on the Web: case studies, mobile tools, research, and how-to guides. **Website:** <http://mobileactive.org/directory>

**Global Development:** Launched in September 2010, this website from the Guardian newspaper tracks progress on the MDGs, encourages debate on its blogs, offers a rich store of datasets from around the world, and features monthly podcasts and resources for schools **Website:** [www.guardian.co.uk/global-development](http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development)

### **Latameconomy Website Launches**

Latameconomy.org is the latest evolution of the annual Latin American Economic Outlook report, essentially bringing its trusted, high quality content into the digital age. Its wide country coverage and methods of analysis are essential for anyone seeking to understand the economic, social and political developments of Latin American countries. **Website:** [www.latameconomy.org/en/](http://www.latameconomy.org/en/)

### **International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs)**

International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs) is a pluralist network of progressive economists across the world, engaged in research, teaching and dissemination of critical analyses of economic policy and development. **Website:** [www.networkideas.org/](http://www.networkideas.org/)

### **OECD: Tackling the economic crisis website**

The global economic crisis is entering a new phase amid signs of a return to positive growth in many countries. But unemployment is likely to remain high and much still needs to be done to underpin a durable recovery. This website will track the recovery.

**Website:** [http://www.oecd.org/document/24/0,3343,en\\_2649\\_201185\\_41707672\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_1,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/document/24/0,3343,en_2649_201185_41707672_1_1_1_1,00.html)

**The Global Urbanist:** News and analysis of cities around the world: planning, governance, economy, communities, environment, international. **Website:** [www.globalurbanist.com](http://www.globalurbanist.com)

**ICT Update:** A bimonthly printed bulletin, a web magazine, and an accompanying email newsletter that explores innovative uses of information technology in agriculture and rural development in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. **Website:** <http://ictupdate.cta.int/en/Regulars/Perspectives/%28issue%29/56>

**Youth-Inclusive Financial Services (YFS-Link) Program:** The first space for financial services providers (FSPs) and youth-service organizations (YSOs) to gather, learn and share about youth-inclusive financial services.

**Website:** [yfslink.org](http://yfslink.org)

**Triple Crisis Blog:** Global Perspectives on Finance, Development and Environment

**Website:** <http://triplecrisis.com/>

**Full Disclosure:** The Aid Transparency Blog: A Devex blog, written by members of the international community.

**Website:** [www.devex.com/en/blogs/full-disclosure](http://www.devex.com/en/blogs/full-disclosure)

**Africa Portal:** An online knowledge resource offering researchers and opinion leaders a forum to share their insights on Africa and publish their work on pressing areas of concern to policymakers and the public. It aims to fill the gap in accessibility to research and information on policy issues on the continent.

**Website:** [africaportal.org](http://africaportal.org)

**African Economic Outlook:** A unique online tool that puts rigorous economic data, information and research on Africa at your fingertips. A few clicks gives access to comprehensive analyses of African economies, placed in their social and political contexts. This is the only place where African countries are examined through a common analytical framework, allowing you to compare economic prospects at the regional, sub-regional and country levels. **Website:** [africaneconomicoutlook.org/en](http://africaneconomicoutlook.org/en)

**Africa Renewal:** The *Africa Renewal* information programme, produced by the Africa Section of the United Nations Department of Public Information, provides up-to-date information and analysis of the major economic and development challenges facing Africa today.

**Website:** [www.un.org/ecosocdev/geninfo/afrec/](http://www.un.org/ecosocdev/geninfo/afrec/)

**Timbuktu Chronicles:** *A blog by Emeka Okafor: "a view of Africa and Africans with a focus on entrepreneurship, innovation, technology, practical remedies and other self-sustaining activities."*

**Website:** <http://timbuktuchronicles.blogspot.com/>

**AfriGadget:** AfriGadget is a must-read for African invention junkies. They are always on the look out for ingenious innovation that is new or a repurposing of existing technology in a new way, interesting in the sense that the story captures the imagination of others, inspiring others to see solutions in uncommon ways, practical ideas that solve problems in a demonstrable way, and entrepreneurs who are inventing new products or solutions. **Website:** [www.afrigadget.com](http://www.afrigadget.com)

### **Interesting Blogger**

**Emeka Okafor, Timbuktu Chronicles:** Emeka Okafor is an entrepreneur and venture catalyst who lives in New York City. He is the curator of Maker Faire Africa. He was the director for TED Global 2007 that took place in Arusha, Tanzania. In addition he is a member of the TED fellowship team. His interests include sustainable technologies in the developing world and paradigm-breaking technologies in general. His blog, Timbuktu Chronicles, seeks to spur dialogue in areas of entrepreneurship, technology and the scientific method as it impacts Africa. **Website:** <http://timbuktuchronicles.blogspot.co.uk/>

### **Notable Websites**

**African Brains:** The Home of Intelligent Networking: African Brains - for forward thinking, intelligent Africans to network and propose new ideas and technologies to the world. **Website:** [www.africanbrains.net](http://www.africanbrains.net)

**Arab Brains:** The Home of Intelligent Networking: Arab Brains has been established to connect innovative Arabs across the Arab World and beyond. Website: <http://arabbrains.com/>

### **Social Media**

**Africa Entrepreneurship Platform:** This ground breaking initiative is created as a forum to showcase innovative ideas and businesses from Africa that have the ability to scale internationally, driving job creation and sustainable economic development between Africa and the Americas. **Website:** [www.sacca.biz](http://www.sacca.biz)

**AfriGadget on Facebook:** 'Solving everyday problems with African ingenuity': **Website:** [www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2402629579](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2402629579)

### **Start-up Funding**

#### **Hubs!**

They are sprouting up all over the place and now there is a map showing where they are in Africa. **Website:** <https://africahubs.crowdmap.com/#>

And there are 18 in Latin America too. **Website:** <http://thenextweb.com/la/2012/08/11/18-latin-american-tech-hubs-know/>

### **The SEED Initiative**

Hosted by the UN Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), the SEED Initiative is a global partnership for action on the Green Economy. The annual SEED Awards help to develop the most promising social and environmental start-ups in emerging economies and developing countries. **Website:** <http://unep.org/newscentre/Default.aspx?DocumentID=2647&ArticleID=8798&l=en>

### **The Pioneers of Prosperity Grant and Award**

This competition is a partnership between the OTF Group and the John F. Templeton Foundation of the United States, and promotes companies in East Africa by identifying local role models that act as examples of sustainable businesses in their country/region. It is open to businesses from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda.

Five pioneers will receive US \$50,000 to re-invest in their business. It is open to for-profit businesses that provide high wages to their workers and that operate in sustainable ways. **Website:** <http://pioneersofprosperity.org/index.php>

### **Oxford Said Business School Youth Business Development Competition**

Open to youth between 16 and 21 across the world, the competition is run by students at Oxford University to promote social enterprise. A prize fund of £2,000 in seed capital is up for grabs. It calls itself the 'world's first global youth development competition. **Website:** [www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/oba/se/ybd](http://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/oba/se/ybd)

## Challenge

**InnoCentive** ([www.innocentive.com/](http://www.innocentive.com/)) is a challenge to the world's inventors to find solutions to real scientific and technological problems affecting the poor and vulnerable. It is an open marketplace where anybody with a problem can post it, and rewards for effective solutions stretch up to US \$100,000. They use rigorous intellectual property protection so ideas are not stolen without credit being given to the inventor. **Website:** [www.rockfound.org/about\\_us/news/2007/0720first\\_seeker.shtml](http://www.rockfound.org/about_us/news/2007/0720first_seeker.shtml)

**Rwanda Innovation Endowment Fund (RIEF):** Rwanda Research Innovation Endowment Fund (RIEF) was established and is managed by the Government of Rwanda, through the Ministry of Education (MINEDUC) in partnership with UNECA (SRO-EA & ISTD) under One UN Rwanda. The objective of this Fund is to stimulate economic transformation through R&D in innovative market-oriented products and processes in priority areas of the economy, thereby increasing prosperity and the competitiveness of the Rwandan economy. The orientation can be either for economic growth, social development or combination of the two. **Website:** <http://www.mineduc.gov.rw/spip.php?article21>

**The Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA):** The **United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)** and the **African Innovation Foundation (AIF)** are delighted to announce the call for applications for the 2013 **Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA)**. Too often, innovators and entrepreneurs are not highly profiled on the African development agenda. It is IPA's mission to elevate attention around innovative work and help support the vision of entrepreneurs. The prize honours and encourages innovative achievements that contribute towards the development of new products, increased efficiency or cost savings in Africa. The prize also promotes the efforts of young African men and women pursuing science, technology and engineering careers as well as business opportunities that aim to contribute to sustainable development in Africa. **Website:** <http://innovationprizeforafrica.org/>

## Video

**Forum for the Future:** Compelling animated videos exploring the hard choices of an urbanizing world and the need to promote sustainable development and environmental harmony. **Website:** <http://www.youtube.com/user/forumforthefuture96>

## EVENTS

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to [developmentchallenges@googlemail.com](mailto:developmentchallenges@googlemail.com).

## 2013

### June

**China's New Future: Fortune Global Forum**  
Chengdu, China (6-8 June 2013)

Since 1995, the Global Forum has convened the heads of global business—the chairmen, presidents, and CEOs of the world's largest companies—on the dynamic frontiers of international commerce. In 2013 the Global Forum will return to China for the 4th time, convening in Chengdu, an energetic growing city in southwestern China that is both a symbol and the reality of the 21st century global economy. China is at a key inflection point, changing dynamically, and the Fortune Global Forum is the highest-level place for multinational CEOs—and the heads of China's most important companies—to gain visibility into the emerging new trends, and meet the people that are shaping "China's New Future." It represents an unparalleled opportunity to build the key relationships and obtain insights that are vital to positioning multinational companies for long-term success, in China and on a global basis. Participation in the Fortune Global Forum is by invitation only, and is attended by the CEOs of the Fortune Global 500 companies, along with the most important leaders from China and other nations.

**Website:** <http://www.fortuneconferences.com/global-forum-2013/>

### **Future of Mobile**

San Francisco, USA (10-11 June 2013)

The MIT Technology Review Mobile Summit examines the benefits, risks and opportunities we are seeing in mobile, and introduces attendees to the disruptive business and technology leaders in the field.

**Website:** <http://www.technologyreview.com/summit/mobile/>

**Digital Horizons: People, Prosperity, Power**  
Stockholm, Sweden (12-13 June 2013)

Technology is going to change everything, again. Digitalisation has already transformed our lives but a new wave of innovation is coming that will reshape the way we live, work and consume, redefining social systems, industrial competitiveness and democracy – pushing the boundaries of what we thought possible. At Digital Horizons, we will explore the opportunities, challenges and threats in our digital future, focusing on current trends and their impact in 5, 15 and 30 years. How will technology change the way that companies compete and consumers behave? What needs to happen for Northern Europe, a hub of innovation in the past, to ensure that digitalisation supports growth, transparency and competition? Our summit will gather leading innovators, researchers, entrepreneurs, futurists and policymakers to discuss the digital future. **Website:** <http://cemea.economistconferences.com/event/digital-horizons-0>

**The New York Forum: Africa 2013**  
Libreville, Gabon (14-16 June 2013)

The inaugural New York Forum Africa was about recognizing Africa's economic achievements and understanding the opportunities for business and investors. The New York Forum Africa 2013 will focus on the hard work necessary to make these opportunities a reality: How do we implement an action plan? What are the concrete next steps? **Website:** <http://www.ny-forum-africa.com/en/home>

**Women of West Africa Entrepreneurship Conference**  
Lagos, Nigeria (20-22 June 2013)

Women entrepreneurship in Nigeria is breaking new ground in business, government and society driving change across diverse spheres of influence through innovation, creativity and total determination. Yet challenges in an increasingly demanding and competitive economic environment remain. How are women entrepreneurs cultivating success, taking ownership of their ambitions and thriving both personally and professionally and what strategies are being developed to gain momentum while on their journey towards taking the reins are some of this issues which will be covered at this year's event dedicated to meeting today's challenges for the leading entrepreneurs of tomorrow.

**Website:**

[http://wowenigeria.com/?utm\\_source=Ventures%20Africa&utm\\_medium=Banner&utm\\_campaign=WOWe&utm\\_content=Version%202](http://wowenigeria.com/?utm_source=Ventures%20Africa&utm_medium=Banner&utm_campaign=WOWe&utm_content=Version%202)

**2013 Public Symposium: New Economic Approaches for a Coherent Post-2015 Agenda**  
Geneva, Switzerland (24-25 June 2013)

The Public Symposium is the annual outreach event of UNCTAD where government officials, civil society representatives, academics, the private sector and other interested observers come together to engage in an open and interactive dialogue on key trade and development issues.

**Website:** <http://unctad.org/en/conferences/publicsymposium/2013/Pages/home.aspx>

## July

**Launch of the Economic Development in Africa Report 2013**  
(11 July 2013)

"*Intra-African trade: unleashing private-sector dynamism*" is the theme of the Economic Development in Africa Report 2013. The report focuses on how to strengthen the private sector and reap developmental gains, as intra-Africa trade is vital for helping the continent's nations build their productive capacities and enhance entrepreneurship. **Website:** <http://unctad.org/en/Pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=298>

## August

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to [developmentchallenges@googlegmail.com](mailto:developmentchallenges@googlegmail.com).

## September

**Global Youth Economic Opportunities Conference 2013**  
Washington, D.C., USA (10-12 September 2013)

Purpose: Increase economic opportunities for 1.8 billion youth. The conference goal is to strengthen the impact, scale, and sustainability of youth economic opportunity programming. Be part of this premier learning event. Join leading practitioners, funders, private sector companies, researchers, educators, advocates, youth leaders and government representatives working to increase economic opportunities for young people, together with those working in the related areas of education, financial services, and health. The 2013 event will contain two Spotlights: "Opportunities for Rural Youth" focuses on how to support youth in rural areas. "Power of Technology" showcases how to utilize technology in your programming.

**Website:** <http://www.youtheconomicopportunities.org/conference/register>



## **Launch of the Trade and Development Report 2013**

(12 September 2013)

“Winds of change in the world economy: Rethinking development strategies” is the title of the Trade and Development Report 2013. The study will contend that to achieve durable and inclusive growth, developing and transition economies will need to move towards a new form of development, away from seeking net-export advantages on the back of global imbalances and towards a concentration on strengthening domestic demand and on expanding regional and South-South economic linkages.

**Website:** <http://unctad.org/en/Pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=299>

## **Medicine 2.0'13 6th World Congress on Social Media, Mobile Apps, and Internet/Web 2.0 in Health and Medicine**

London, UK (23-24 September 2013)

This year hosted in London, will once again be very international and contain a unique mix of traditional academic/research, practice and business presentations, keynote presentations, and panel discussions to discuss emerging technologies in health and medicine, with an emphasis on Internet-based, social media, and mobile technologies. **Website:** <http://bit.ly/X7ZXxi>

## **October**

### **7th ECOWAS Trade Fair**

Accra, Ghana (24 October to 4 November 2013)

The regional fair, which is now a biennial event, was instituted to boost intra-community trade which presently hovers between 11 and 15 percent, and thereby contributing to the improved implementation of the ECOWAS Trade Liberalisation Scheme (ETLS). It will also contribute to empowering local producers and stimulating the regional economy. **Website:** <http://www.ecowas.int/>

### **Ghana Investment Summit 2013**

Accra, Ghana (29 to 30 October 2013)

Africa's recent economic surge is fueling optimism about the continent's prospects and positioning it in the minds of many investors and businesses as a significant opportunity. Blessed with a wealth of natural resources and a large, young and growing population, many economies in Africa are enjoying rates of growth and development that are the envy of the emerging world. **Website:**

<http://cemea.economistconferences.com/event/ghana-investment-summit-2013/ghana-investment-summit-2013-fees-and-registration>

## **November**

### **Launch of the Least Developed Countries Report 2013**

(20 November 2013)

The UNCTAD Least Developed Countries Report 2013 will focus on the theme of “Growth with employment for inclusive and sustainable development”. The report, noting that 130 million people will enter the labour force in LDCs by 2020, reviews past LDC trends relating to economic growth and employment and recommends policy steps to accelerate job creation. **Website:** <http://unctad.org/en/Pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=300>

## **December**

### **Launch of the Information Economy Report 2013**

(3 December 2013)

**Website:** <http://unctad.org/en/Pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=301>

## **AWARDS AND FUNDING**

### **The EU Contest for Young Scientists**

The European Union (EU) Contest for Young Scientists, an initiative of the European Commission, was set up to promote the ideals of co-operation and interchange between young scientists.

**Website:** [http://ec.europa.eu/research/youngscientists/index\\_en.cfm?pg=history](http://ec.europa.eu/research/youngscientists/index_en.cfm?pg=history)

### **2013 Innovation Prize for Africa**

The second round of the Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA), which aims to reward innovation across Africa in key sectors of interest, has been launched. The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) expect the prize to promote among young African men and women in the pursuit of science, technology and engineering careers and business applications. The aims are to:

- Mobilize leaders from all sectors to fuel African innovation;
- Promote innovation across Africa in key sectors of interest through the competition;
- Promote science, technology and engineering as rewarding, exciting and noble career options among the youth in Africa by profiling success applicants; and
- Encourage entrepreneurs, innovators, funding bodies and business development service providers to exchange ideas and explore innovative business opportunities.

**Website:** [innovationPrizeForAfrica.org](http://innovationPrizeForAfrica.org)

### **World Summit Youth Award**

The international contest for young people using the Internet and mobiles to take action on the UN Millennium Development Goals.

**Website:** [www.youthaward.org](http://www.youthaward.org)

### **Grand Challenges Canada: Request for Proposals**

Grand Challenges Canada is pleased to announce a new initiative in its Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health grand challenge. It's called Saving Brains. Its goal is to unlock potential in children and dramatically transform lives in the developing world. The money to fund this program comes from the Development Innovation Fund. In Budget 2008, the Government of Canada committed \$225 million CAD over five years to the Development Innovation Fund, to support the best minds in the world in a collaborative search for solutions to global health challenges. For the Request for Proposals:

**Website:** [http://www.grandchallenges.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Request\\_for\\_Proposals-Saving\\_Brains\\_EN.pdf](http://www.grandchallenges.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Request_for_Proposals-Saving_Brains_EN.pdf)

### **Zayed Future Energy Prize**

The world is in desperate need of innovative solutions to create a new, sustainable energy future. No one knows who or where the next great energy solution will come from. Solutions and technologies that could change the world are being developed globally, and the \$2.2 million Zayed Future Energy Prize, managed by Masdar in Abu Dhabi, recognizes and rewards innovation, leadership, and long-term vision in renewable energy and sustainability.

**Website:** [www.zayedfutureenergyprize.com/](http://www.zayedfutureenergyprize.com/)

### **Philips Liveable Cities Award**

Philips is looking for individuals and community or non-government organizations and businesses with ideas for "simple solutions" that will improve people's health and well-being in a city to enter the Philips Liveable Cities Award. To help translate these ideas into reality, three Award grants totalling €125,000 are on the line. One overall winning idea from any of the three categories outlined below will receive a grant of €75,000, while the two additional ideas will receive grants of €25,000.

**Website:** <http://www.because.philips.com/livable-cities-award/about-the-award>

### **Piramal Foundation in India**

Has established a US \$25,000 prize for ideas that help advance full access to effective public health care in India. The Piramal Prize is a \$25,000 Social Entrepreneurship Competition focused on democratizing health care in India that seeks to encourage and support bold entrepreneurial ideas which can profoundly impact access to higher standards of health for India's rural and marginalized urban communities. The award recognizes high-impact, scalable business models and innovative solutions that directly or indirectly address India's health-care crisis.

**Website:** [www.piramalprize.org](http://www.piramalprize.org)

### **Special Award for South-South Transfer**

The aim of the award is to identify, provide visibility, and honour those who have successfully shared their projects and approaches internationally, thereby increasing the impact of the initiative. The winning practice receives US \$15,000 to further transfer the awarded practice to other communities in developing countries.

**Website:** [www.southsouthexpo.org](http://www.southsouthexpo.org)

### **South-South Experience Exchange Facility**

Supported by Mexico, China, India, Denmark, Spain, The Netherlands, and the U.K. and now Colombia, the South-South Experience Exchange Facility is a multi-donor trust fund that promotes the idea that developing countries can learn from the successes of other developing countries in overcoming similar challenges. In the past 12 months, the trust has given out 35 grants to countries for learning activities ranging from working with at risk youth in the Caribbean to outsourcing IT services in Africa.

**Website:** [www.southsouthcases.info](http://www.southsouthcases.info)

### **African Writers Fund**

Together with the Ford Foundation, the Fund supports the work of independent creative writers living on the continent. The Fund recognizes the vital role that poets and novelists play in Africa by anticipating and reflecting the cultural, economic and political forces that continuously shape and reshape societies.

**Website:** [http://www.trustafrica.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=91&Itemid=90&lang=fr](http://www.trustafrica.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=91&Itemid=90&lang=fr)

### **Joint NAM S&T Centre - ICCS Fellowship Programme**

Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre) and International Center for Chemical Sciences (ICCS), (H.E.J. Research Institute of Chemistry and Dr. Panjwani Centre for Molecular Medicine and Drug Research), University of Karachi, Karachi, Pakistan

[Click here for more information](#)

or contact: [namstct@vsnl.com](mailto:namstct@vsnl.com), [namstct@bol.net.in](mailto:namstct@bol.net.in), [apknam@gmail.com](mailto:apknam@gmail.com)

### **PhD Plant Breeding Scholarships at the University of Ghana**

The University of Ghana ([www.ug.edu.gh](http://www.ug.edu.gh)) has been awarded a project support grant by the Alliance for a Green Revolution ([www.agra-alliance.org](http://www.agra-alliance.org)) in Africa (a joint venture between the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation, for the establishment of a West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI). This is available to scientists working at NARIs, universities and international centres in West Africa. Women scientists are especially encouraged to apply for a fellowship under this programme.

**Website:** [www.acci.org.za/Default.asp?nav=Home&idno=10](http://www.acci.org.za/Default.asp?nav=Home&idno=10)

### **Genesis: India's Premier Social Entrepreneurship Competition**

Is a social entrepreneurship competition aiming to bring together social entrepreneurs, students, NGOs, innovators, incubators, corporations and financiers and encourage them to come up with innovative ideas which are socially relevant and feasible.

**Website:** <http://genesis.iitm.ac.in/>

## **Jobs and Careers**

**Weitzenegger's International Development Job Market**

**Website:** [www.weitzenegger.de/new/jobmarket.php](http://www.weitzenegger.de/new/jobmarket.php)

### **Global Knowledge Initiative**

The Global Knowledge Initiative seeks to build global knowledge partnerships between individuals and institutions of higher education and research. It seeks to help partners access the global knowledge, technology, and human resources needed to sustain growth and achieve prosperity for all."

**Website:** [www.globalknowledgeinitiative.org/](http://www.globalknowledgeinitiative.org/)

### **ExportHelp - Promoting and supporting access to the European market**

The European Commission runs a database for the explicit support of market players in developing countries who want to bring their products to the EU market. The database gives an overview on the EU's preferential trade regimes established for developing countries as well as lists all tariffs, taxes and other requirements for goods imported into the EU.

**Website:** <http://exporthelp.europa.eu>

### **Development Executive Group Devex Networking Website**

Over 90,000 global experts can network and connect and learn about more than 47,000 registered projects.

**Website:** [www.devex.org](http://www.devex.org)

### **Website Offers Career Advice to Young Africans**

Set up by the Commonwealth Secretariat, [Africancareerguidance.com](http://Africancareerguidance.com) is aimed at providing career guidance to African youth and helping them to link with prospective employers. AfricaRecruit is a human resources organization that provides skills training for African professionals in the Diaspora and on the continent. The website has an inbuilt email subscriber list for all its users and offers a searchable database of career profiles for job seekers and prospective employers. It also offers skills and interest assessments and advice on CV and résumé preparation. It provides tips about interviewing techniques, as well as information on internship and volunteer opportunities, and entrepreneurial skills.

**Website:** [www.africacareerguidance.com](http://www.africacareerguidance.com)

### **African Diaspora Skills Database**

This database was compiled to provide an overview of qualified African Diaspora professionals with varied areas of expertise and experience. The African Diaspora contributes substantially to the social, economic and political development of Africa, and this database is set up to further mobilize this considerable potential.

**Website:** [www.diaspora-centre.org/NEWSLETTER/Database](http://www.diaspora-centre.org/NEWSLETTER/Database)

### **Aid Workers Network (AWN)**

Aid Workers Network (AWN) is an online platform for aid, relief and development workers to ask and answer questions of each other, and to exchange resources and information. AWN is registered in the United Kingdom as a charity. You will find discussions about a range of questions and issues on the AWN forum from aid, relief and development workers all over the world and representing a variety of fields, with new threads or responses posted daily. The forum is a great way to get in contact with other aid and development workers in your geographic area or working in a similar area of work.

**Website:** [www.aidworkers.net](http://www.aidworkers.net)

**Bizzlounge**

Bizzlounge is where people committed to ethical behaviour meet, who want to establish and maintain business contacts in an exclusive and relaxed environment.

**Website:** <http://bizzlounge.com>

**Business Action for Africa**

Business Action for Africa is a network of businesses and business organizations working collectively to accelerate growth and poverty reduction in Africa.

**Website:** <http://businessactionforafrica.blogspot.com> .

**Business Fights Poverty**

Business Fights Poverty is a professional network for all those passionate about fighting world poverty through the power of good business.

**Website:** <http://businessfightspoverty.ning.com>

**Business in Development Network (BiD)**

The BiD Network Foundation runs the BiD Challenge to contribute to sustainable economic development by stimulating entrepreneurship in developing countries.

**Website:** [www.bidnetwork.org](http://www.bidnetwork.org)

**Zunia**

By Development Exchange, it offers news, publications and networking opportunities with the world's development community.

**Website:** [www.zunia.org](http://www.zunia.org)

**Catalogue of Poverty Networks**

UNDP is organizing an online catalogue of Poverty Networks as a means to facilitate access to knowledge and sharing this to a wider audience in 189 countries. Poverty Networks are web-based platforms that provide space for sharing and disseminating development-related information and initiatives. Below you will find information on IPC's collaborating networks, which help foster dialogue between researchers, policymakers, civil society and multilateral organizations.

**Website:** [www.undp-povertycentre.org/povnet.do](http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/povnet.do)

**Connections for Development (CfD)**

CfD is a UK, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) led, membership based organization committed to ensuring that UK BME communities, and the organizations they are involved in, are supported in the process of shaping and delivering policy and projects that affect their countries of origin or interest – collectively "our world".

**Website:** [www.cfdnetwork.co.uk](http://www.cfdnetwork.co.uk)

**Development Crossing**

Development Crossing was set up in 2006 by a small group of friends with diverse backgrounds ranging from business consulting to international development. In a world where the environment, corporate responsibility, and sustainable development are becoming increasingly intertwined, our goal was to create a site where individuals that shared our passion could keep up-to-date with relevant happenings in the world and connect with like-minded individuals. The idea behind Development Crossing is to provide a social network that brings together people from a variety of sectors, countries and professions to discuss corporate social responsibility and sustainable development.

**Website:** [www.developmentcrossing.com](http://www.developmentcrossing.com)

**DevelopmentAid.org**

The one-stop-information-shop for the developmental sector, DevelopmentAid.org is a membership organization that brings together information for developmental professionals, NGOs, consultancy firms and donors.

**Website:** [www.developmentaid.org](http://www.developmentaid.org)

**dgCommunities on the Development Gateway (Zunia.org)**

Zunia.org, a free online service by the Development Gateway Foundation is devoted to knowledge-sharing and collaboration for people working to reduce poverty in the developing world.

**Website:** <http://topics.developmentgateway.org>

**Diaspora African Forum**

This Forum exists "to invite and encourage the full participation of Africans in the Diaspora in the building of the African Union, in its capacity as an important part of the Continent". We will provide the vital linkage for Diaspora Africans to become involved in Africa's development as well as reap the fruits of African unity.

**Website:** [www.diasporafricanforum.org](http://www.diasporafricanforum.org)

**Business Planet: a new data map on Entrepreneurship**

Business Planet, an interactive Google map, now includes data on new business creation around the world. Measures of entrepreneurial activity are based on the number of total and newly registered corporations. Click on colour markers to learn more about each country.

**Website:** <http://rru.worldbank.org/businessplanet/default.aspx?pid=8>